



Claims under Examination -- Xiong et al. (August 6, 2003)
Appl'n Serial No. 09/541,462

1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid encoding ROC1, said nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a nucleic acid consisting of the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1**;
 - (b) a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of the nucleic acid of (a) above under stringent conditions defined by a wash of 50% Formamide, 5X Denhardt's solution, 0.5% SDS and 1X SSPE at 42°C, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that forms a complex with a cullin protein and/or has ubiquitin ligase activity;
 - (c) a nucleic acid that differs from the nucleic acid of (a) or (b) above due to the degeneracy of the genetic code; and
 - (d) a nucleic acid having at least 95% sequence identity to the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1**, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein that forms a complex with a cullin protein and/or has ubiquitin ligase activity.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a ROC1 protein consisting of the amino acid sequence given herein as **SEQ ID NO:2**.
4. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence given herein as **SEQ ID NO:1**.
5. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A cell comprising an expression vector according to Claim 5.

7. (Currently Amended) A cell comprising an expression vector according to Claim 6 and capable of expressing ROC1.

Claims 8-12 (Withdrawn)

13. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide that is 8 to 50 nucleotides in length and is completely complementary to a portion of the nucleic acid encoding ROC1 of Claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) The antisense oligonucleotide of Claim 13, wherein said oligonucleotide is DNA.

15. (Currently Amended) An expression vector encoding an antisense oligonucleotide according to Claim 13.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of **SEQ ID NO:2**, or a fragment thereof, comprising

(a) culturing a host cell comprising an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) a nucleic acid consisting of the nucleotide sequence of **SEQ ID NO:1**;
- (ii) a nucleic acid that differs from the nucleic acid of (i) above due to the degeneracy of the genetic code; and

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- (iii) a segment of at least 60 nucleotides of the nucleic acid of
(i) or (ii) above; and
- (b) recovering the protein from the host cell culture.

Claims 17-48 (Withdrawn)
